

Official Experience Guide

# ROCKFORD ILLINOIS

ESCAPE TO  
ACTIVE ADVENTURES  
& WELCOMING VIBES







Midway Village Museum  
 CELEBRATING **50** YEARS AS  
*Rockford's*  
 HISTORY MUSEUM

We are Rockford's  
**Living History**  
 Museum. Visitors will  
 step back in time in  
 our Victorian Village,  
 where costumed history  
 interpreters bring our  
 local history to life.

Our historic buildings  
 and heritage gardens  
 are the perfect backdrop  
 for field trips, rustic  
 weddings, or a fun  
 family afternoon.

2024 is a special year  
 for Midway Village,  
 as it marks our  
**50th Anniversary!**  
 To see our full calendar  
 of events, visit our  
 website. Questions? Call  
 us at 815-397-9112.



midwayvillage.com

*Our mission: Midway Village  
 Museum collects, preserves and  
 interprets the diverse history of the  
 Rockford region and is committed  
 to educating and enriching our  
 community by providing state-of-the  
 art exhibits, programs and events.*



WORLD WAR II DAYS



THE ROARING TWENTIES



SOCK MONKEY MADNESS



ROCKFORD PEACHES

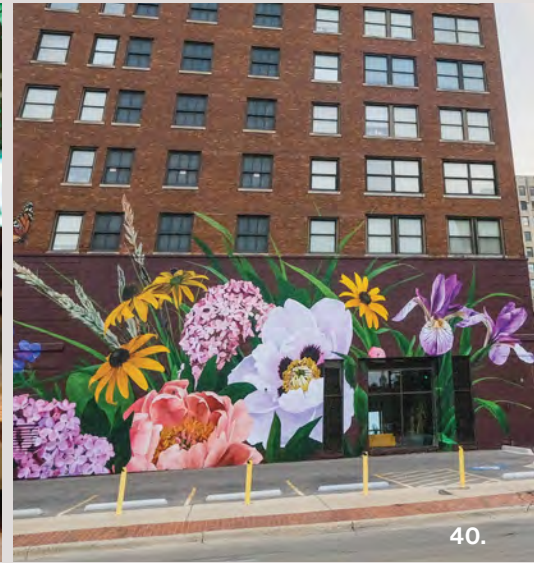




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When you’re planning your special day, look no further than the romantic venues of the Rockford region!

**GoRockford**  
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Rockford, IL 61101-1102  
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To the best of our knowledge, all information in this guide was accurate when it was printed in August 2024.

We encourage you to phone for information prior to planning a trip around a specific attraction or event.

*GoRockford is not responsible for changes in rates, amenities, policies or hours.*



#### **On the cover**

Visitors stroll along East State Street in downtown Rockford, a social district where alcoholic beverages in branded cups can be carried on the street and into participating businesses.

#### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau acknowledges the region promoted in this guide was the homeland of Native American people, including the Winnebago (Ho-Chunk), Sauk, Meskwaki, Shawnee, Potawatomi, Fox, Kickapoo, and Dakota Sioux nations.

# WELCOME TO ROCKFORD

A vibrant city at the top of Illinois, Rockford is 90 miles from downtown Chicago and Milwaukee. Rockford is the largest city in Winnebago County, a region of lush countryside hugging the Illinois state line. At the heart of the region's natural beauty is the Rock River, a tributary of the Mississippi River that together with its own tributaries—the Sugar, Pecatonica and Kishwaukee rivers—makes for nearly 200 miles of gorgeous riverfront vistas from sunrise to sunset.

We could fill this guide solely with tips for enjoying these rivers and 11,000 acres of forest preserves, a state park that's

one of the largest in Illinois, and a bounty of local parks in a nationally recognized park district.

Yet the Rockford region packs more than outdoor thrills. This corner of the Midwest is well known as the home of Rock & Roll Hall of Famers Cheap Trick, baseball pioneers the Rockford Peaches, and NBA champion Fred VanVleet.

It's also quietly blossoming with a thriving arts scene; deep-rooted ethnic and community festivals; independently owned, chef-driven restaurants and scratch kitchens; amazingly repurposed historic buildings; boutique shopping; and fun nightlife.



Rockford Riverfront



## WELCOME TO ROCKFORD

Drivable without bottlenecks or parking hassles, Rockford and its neighboring cities and villages are especially satisfying destinations when time to unwind is limited.

- If you arrive by plane, our international airport is a breeze to get in and out of.
- If you use public transportation, Rockford Mass Transit District offers bus service throughout the region and to many places listed here.

- In and near downtown, you can grab a Bird electric scooter.
- On a Tuesday or Friday night over the summer, if you're by the Rock River Recreation Path, you can take a trolley.

**Whether you're planning a road trip, a day trip, a weekend getaway—or a move to a welcoming, affordable and inclusive city that's not too big or too small—leaf through this guide and get to know Rockford!**



Levings Park

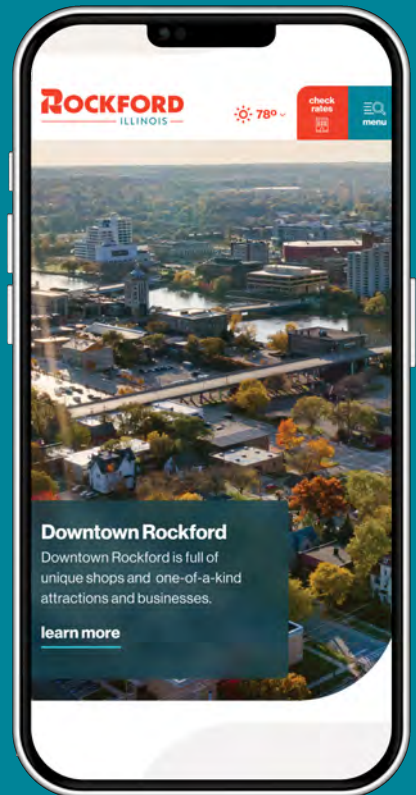


Rick Nielsen – Cheap Trick



Dinner on the Dock

## gorockford.com ROCKFORD AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



Visit our website to learn more about our region including **restaurants, attractions, hotels, things to do, retail, events and more.**

Subscribe to our **Go Guide e-newsletter** to stay in the loop.



# DIVE INTO DOWNTOWN

All the best places in downtown Rockford to eat, drink, shop, stay and explore





If you're itching for an urban center that's easy to navigate and yet still abounds with history, architecture, culture, dining, shopping, nightlife and a thriving arts scene—plus raft-loads of fun on the river running through it—explore downtown Rockford, Illinois.



Rockford Roasting Co.

### Downtown Dining

No matter the time of day or how hungry you are, you'll find culinary creativity for every price point, with something for every palate and dietary preference too.

For a big traditional breakfast, **Magpie** is scratch-made heaven; on weekends, their signature pancakes are gluten-free.

For filling and unexpected, do Filipino brunch at **27 Aluna**, where scrambled eggs come with stir-fried noodles. Need a slice of quiche or a croissant sandwich? Go to **Crust & Crumbles**.

For a caffeine boost and something quick, grab fresh fruit, oatmeal or a smoothie with a latte at **Wired Café**; cookies and '90s nostalgia with a frappe at **Inzombia Coffee**; or a scone with a pour-over at **Rockford Roasting Co.**, one of Food Network star Alton Brown's top eight coffee shops in America.

For lunch, you have all the above plus burgers and salads at **Prairie Street Brewhouse**, **The Tower Kitchen & Bar**, and **District Bar & Grill**; Asian soups and salads at **Sisters Thai Cafe**; sushi and ramen at **Omakase**; Korean barbecue bowls at **Bop Bop**; Mexican street food at **Taco Libre**, **Tortilla Express**, and **Cantina Taco**; sandwiches at **CJ's Public House**; and chicken fingers with chef-made sauces and boba cocktails at **Disco Chicken**.

For dinner, you also have laid-back vibes at **Woodfire**, a gourmet pizza spot owned and run by the family behind **Carlyle Brewing Co.**, a Rockford craft brewery founded in 2003. For atmosphere and fancier food, there's

**Ambiance**, a cozy Creole restaurant; **LimaMar**, a boutique Peruvian restaurant; and **Disco Chicken's** siblings: **Social**, a charcuterie and cocktail bar, and **Abreo**, downtown's fine-dining destination since 2005.

For an afternoon pick-me-up—or a reward for kids on best behavior—find cookies, brookies (half cookie, half brownie), 9-inch cinnamon rolls, ice cream-cake bars, and cake-in-a-jar at **Quixotic Bakery**.

### History, Architecture, Culture

Once you're fueled up, discover magnificent examples of how a city respects the past.

The industrial-chic **Embassy Suites by Hilton Rockford Riverfront** occupies what was once the city's tallest factory. A textile mill in 1912 and later a hardware plant, the transformed 13-story icon opened in 2020 as a four-star hotel. Every floor has an archival display.

**Coronado Performing Arts Center**, a restored vaudeville theater, is considered by architectural historians one of the grandest and best-preserved 1920s movie palaces. **Veterans Memorial Hall and Museum**, preserved to its 1903 dignity, is the only veterans' hall dedicated by a sitting president (Theodore Roosevelt).

A few blocks north on Main Street, at **Riverfront Museum Park**, find the **Rockford Art Museum** for art lovers and **Discovery Center Museum** for kids. A walkway tunnel connects this complex to **Burpee Museum of Natural History**, known for its exceptional exhibits of dinosaurs.

Across the Rock River is **Prairie Street Brewhouse**, an 1850s brewery building

transformed into a brewery, restaurant and special-events venue that relies on geothermal energy for heating, air-conditioning and beer making.

Next door is **Riverview Ice House**, a newly renovated indoor venue that hosts hockey leagues and public skating. One of its two rinks is the **Janet Lynn Arena**, named after the five-time U.S. figure skating champion and two-time Olympian raised in Rockford.



Veterans Memorial Hall



Prairie Street Brewhouse



## Uniquely Rockford Shopping

The oldest of the city's boutiques, **J.R. Kortman Center for Design**, has been a destination for well-crafted gifts from around the world since 1986. Also on the west side of the river are **The Symbols**, a mecca of menswear, and **Subversive Cycling Company**, a bike shop owned by a local BMX rider.

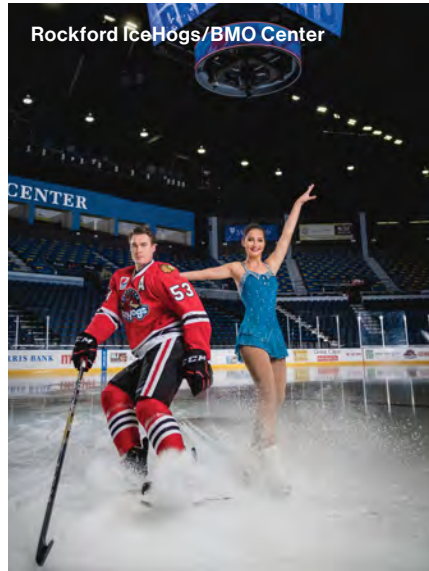
Across the State Street Bridge are two boutiques where the owners hand-make some of the goods. At **SRM Prints Studio + Gift Shop**, Sarah Reed-McNamara block-prints tea towels with a vintage press. At **Infinite Soul Vibrations**, Tamika Brown laces beads intended for healing into bracelets.

Nearby, find souvenir tees at **Rockford Art Deli**, which also houses **Earth Zero Waste**, a go-to for eco-friendly home and personal goods; stylish décor at **Elora Home Interiors**; NBA star Fred VanVleet merchandise at **Weekdays Social Club**; antiques and collectibles at **Salvaged by Sonya**; fitness footwear at **Runner's Image**; select '80s and '90s clothing at **Smiley's Vintage Supply Co.**; 90's retro collectibles at **S'mores Collectibles & Vintage** and curated titles and thought-provoking guest events at **Maze Books**.

Down the street from **Prairie Street Brewhouse** is **Urban Farmgirl**, an 8,000-square-foot furniture and home décor showroom that's open select weekends. If you're obsessed with artisanal and repurposed goods, plan your visit around the posted dates.



Smiley's Vintage Supply Co.

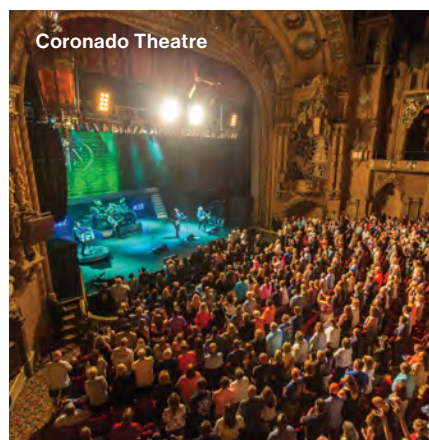


Rockford IceHogs/BMO Center

## Entertainment and Nightlife

Main Street alone houses four amazing venues within a quarter mile. **BMO Center**, the 6,300-seat home of the Rockford IceHogs (the American Hockey League affiliate of the Chicago Blackhawks) is the place for big names in country music, motorsports and children's entertainment. The ornate 2,400-seat Coronado Performing Arts Center, where Frank Sinatra first sang to a crowd, hosts the **Rockford Symphony Orchestra**, the **Rockford Dance Company**, musicals and nationally known acts.

At the 350-seat auditorium at **Veterans Memorial Hall**, community performers take to the early 1900s stage to support local charities. And last but certainly not least, the **RPL Nordlof Center**, where the 280-seat **J.R. Sullivan Theater** showcases emerging local actors, poetry slams and monthly movie nights.



Coronado Theatre



Downtown Rockford

## Downtown Rockford Cocktails & Brews

Nearby, find beer, wine and classic cocktails at **Minnihan's** and **Wood & Brick Tavern**; cannabis-infused drinks and local bands at **District Bar and Grill**; and New Orleans-style frozen cocktails at **Sheila's Daiquiri Lounge**, the place to enjoy live blues and jazz. For craft cocktails on this side of downtown, stroll to **27 Aluna** or **Ambiance**, or head up to the 12th floor of the Embassy Suites for **The Top**, a two-tiered rooftop lounge where firepits make the panoramic view even better.

Across the river, there's even more variety. **Mary's Place**, Rockford's oldest bar, boasts cheap drinks and live music in every style imaginable. At **Disco Chicken**, rooftop views come with electronic music. Both duos and solo artists play at **The Music Box**, a listening lounge honoring the bygone instrument shop where Cheap Trick's Rick Nielsen learned to play guitar. DJs—and ice cream shots—rock **CJ's Public House**. The place for karaoke is **Rue Marché Bar & Grill**. Dancing and drag shows light up **The Office Niteclub**. Nearby craft cocktails are at **Social**, **LimaMar**, and **The Lounge**, a speakeasy inside **Union** event space.

If you're lucky enough to be downtown on a Friday night over the summer, there's also live music on two stages at **Rockford City Market**. Since Rockford has a social entertainment district, it's possible, during designated hours, to take an alcoholic beverage from a participating business with you as you explore downtown.



# GIRLS' GETAWAY

With a girls' getaway weekend in the Rockford region, get ready for sipping, snacking and shopping—all while recharging amid the beauty of outdoor vistas.



Social

## Day 1: Arrival/Friday night

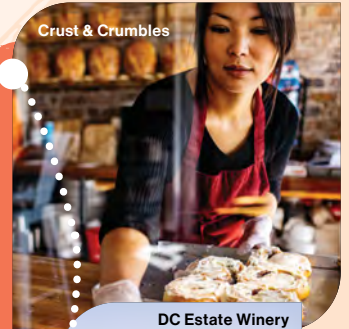
Pick your pampering. Soak away stress in a saltwater pod at **Forest City Float** or head to **WM Day Spa** for a luxury facial. Before dinner and drinks downtown, catch a selfie with girl power. The mural near the **State Street Bridge** celebrates Libby Gardner, a Rockfordian who was an elite Women's Air Force Service Pilot during World War II. Toast your weekend at **Social**, a cocktail bar where you can make a meal of charcuterie, small snacks and caviar. Hungrier? Step over to **Abreo**, its fine-dining sibling three doors down.

## Day 2: Saturday

Get to **Crust & Crumbles** before the day's cruffins are gone. Start your tour of boutiques with awesome 80s and 90s clothing at **Smiley's Vintage Supply Co.** Then stroll to E. State St. Find chic tabletop accessories and the softest linens at **Elora Home Interiors**, block-printed tea towels by nationally known textile artist **Sarah Reed-McNamara** at **SRM Prints Studio + Gift Shop**, and drool-worthy estate jewelry at **Salvaged by Sonya**. Lunch at **27 Aluna**, a chef-driven Filipino restaurant.

Before a half-hour drive north, step across the street to the longstanding jewel of Rockford shopping: **J.R. Kortman Center for Design**, a concept store with elegantly fun items from around the world. Head to wine country in South Beloit, where the scenery is as soothing as the sips at **DC Estate Winery**. In the summer, enjoy wine slushies on the patio. Spend the rest of the afternoon at **Rock Cut State Park**, an outdoor delight year-round, or if you're visiting in the spring, summer or fall, at the zen gem of **Anderson Japanese Gardens**.

For dinner, sink into art at **LimaMar**, a boutique Peruvian restaurant where food and cocktails are as strikingly gorgeous as the decor. End the evening at **The Music Box** listening lounge, a nod to the city's rock and roll history. Wall art is from the collection of **Cheap Trick's Rick Nielsen**. The venue is owned and run by a team led by local musicians **Kelly Steward**, his daughter-in-law, and **Miles Nielsen**, one of Rick's sons.



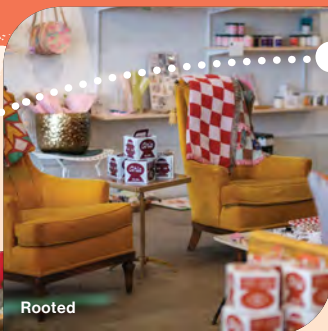
Crust &amp; Crumbles



DC Estate Winery



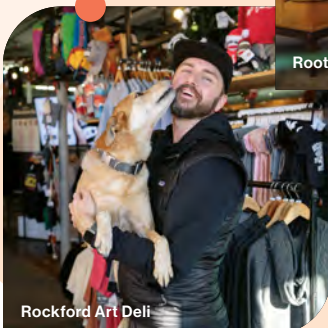
Anderson Japanese Gardens



Rooted

## Day 3: Sunday/departure

One of the Midwest's cutest brunch pubs—**The Norwegian**—has your girls' brunch covered. Book ahead, share the Reindeer Feed, and even if you don't see it on the menu, ask for glogg. The in-vogue boutique next door, **Rooted**, has vintage home goods, gifts and **Picked**, a curated flower shop with grab-and-go bouquets. If you're in town on a weekend when **Urban Farmgirl** is open, block out time to peruse artisan goods at this treasure-filled warehouse showroom. For a souvenir tee—and to visit shop-pup Pepper, stop at **Rockford Art Deli**. And for a drink before getting on the highway, pull over to **Candy Cloud**, a boba and shake shop like no other.



Rockford Art Deli



# FLAVORS AROUND THE GLOBE

A world of dining experiences  
awaits you in Rockford



27 Aluna, downtown Rockford





## ROCKFORD CUISINE

In just a short drive around town, you can take your taste buds on a global tour of culinary delights. Independently owned restaurants, many of them family-run, bring to life recipes from Scandinavia all the way to East and Southeast Asia, and from South America north to U.S. regions known for their cuisines.

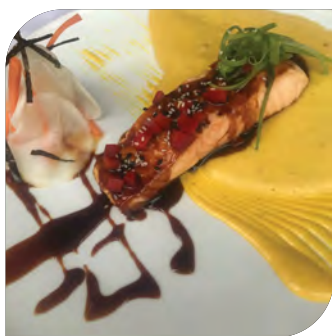
Come and explore the diverse range. See what comfort food means in other cultures. Discover what local chefs do with their spins on your favorite cuisines. And make your own memories at an institution where European royalty once dined.



### **The Norwegian** Scandinavian

*1402 N. Main St, Rockford*

Skål to brunch with a Nordic twist! At this cozy neighborhood spot just north of downtown, enjoy scrambled eggs with Jarlsberg cheese and house made cherry jam, Swedish cinnamon and cardamom knots, and Norwegian sourdough waffles. Not sure how to pronounce “Æbleskiver”? Just ask for the Danish pancake balls.



### **LimaMar** Peruvian

*221 E. State St, Rockford*

In downtown Rockford, at one of the chicest boutique restaurants in northern Illinois, Chef Rossana Maya Terry dazzles with dishes celebrating her native Peru. From ceviche appetizers to entrees like a corn soufflé with wok-fried beef tenderloin, every plate treats the eyes and the taste buds. Her husband, Ross, a mixologist, makes magic with pisco.



### **Plume** Northern Italian

*1132 Auburn St., Rockford*

Let the attentive staff pace you through a European farm-to-table experience that celebrates the Emilia-Romagna region of northern Italy, where the owners' family comes from—and where tomato sauce isn't standard. Pasta is fresh, handmade, and can be ordered gluten-free. Produce and meats are sourced locally, with many vegan and vegetarian options too. Bartenders here are drink chefs, creating such fun cocktails as Ca-Peach and mixing flavorful mocktails based on your palette preferences. Come summer, the patio becomes a spritz bar.

### **Sisters Thai Café** Thai

*514 E. State St, Rockford*

At this family-run go-to for lunch and dinner downtown, all the Thai classics—soups, curries, stir fries—come from recipes passed down through generations. On a fall day, Tom Kha soup means comfort; on a summer night, so do Nam Kow wraps on the patio. Sweet and sour, Pad Preow Wan is a treat anytime.

### **Mexico Clasico** Mexican

*3929 Broadway, Rockford*

This gem on Rockford's southeast side is an area favorite. Tortillas are made in-house; guacamole is mashed tableside. You'll find authentic takes on standards from fajitas and flautas to burritos and chimichangas. Expect signature dishes, too, like Enchiladas Acapulco and Pollo Borracho. The bar menu has its surprises; try a Mazapan martini.

### **Ali Baba** Mediterranean

*139 Sunda Dr, Rockford*

Pita bread baked here daily makes all the Mediterranean staples on the menu even more satisfying. Dip it into hummus and baba ghanoush. Savor it folded around falafel, gyros, marinated meat kebabs, and the fan-favorite chicken shawarma. Scoop it into Greek salad and tabouleh. And don't forget to grab a bag to go.



**China Palace**

Chinese

625 S. Blackhawk Blvd. Rockton

Savor Mandarin and Cantonese classics at this family-run Chinese restaurant, a staple in the village of Rockton since 1990. Ask to be seated at or near the bar to adore the stained glass and intricate woodwork, which hail from the bygone Wagon Wheel—a Rockton resort that in its day was one of the Midwest’s grandest.



**Shogun**

Japanese

293 Executive Pkwy, Rockford

Dining out should be memorable, and Shogun delivers just that. With an impressive display of knife skills, teppan dishes are made to order at your table. Make an evening of it visiting the adjoining sake shop, Izakaya 88, which has both happy hour and karaoke. Pair sake sangria with their sushi or Asian-fusion tapas

**Hai-Quynh & Tien Tea House**

Vietnamese

324 Seventh St, Rockford

This old-school, family-run spot in Rockford’s Midtown district keeps drawing praise, starting with pho where you can really taste the bone broth, and traditional dishes like lotus and vermicelli salads. But there’s more: Tucked inside is Tien Tea House, a boba shop run by the owner’s children; their taro drink is a must.



**KBQ**

Korean

6332 E. Riverside Blvd, Loves Park

Barbecue and Korean fried chicken. KBQ has both temptations and more: from bulgogi to pork dumplings to kimchi pancakes. Plus, you have the option here of trying the true Korean barbecue experience: Order your choice of meat and have it brought to the table so you and your party can grill it!

**Poke Green**

Hawaiian

3053 N. Perryville Road, Rockford

For a quick meal that’s still a culinary adventure, head to a strip center on Rockford’s northeast side for Poke Green. Build your own bowl of Hawaiian goodness with a choice of salmon, tuna, crab, shrimp or eel and your pick of veggies and sauce. Or get a poke option from their menu, like the Sea Bowl.

**Koo’s Bento & Bowl**

Indonesian

3206 S Alpine Road, Rockford

Pay attention to red-and-white icons dotting the menu. At this tiny Asian fusion spot owned and run by two sisters from Indonesia, the colors of their flag highlight the dishes from their homeland. If you like slow-cooked meat, try beef rendang—ultra tender and caramelized. Seating is limited; best to plan on carryout.



## ROCKFORD CUISINE

### 27 Aluna

Filipino

124 N. Main St, Rockford

The name of this downtown Rockford restaurant comes from the address in Manila where the owner, Chef Patrick Alberto, grew up and learned to cook. Pork lumpia rolls are his mother's recipe. Savor the love in every bite, from chicken adobo to longganisa sliders. For brunch, turon crepes pair perfectly with the ube and vodka cocktail.

### The Olympic Tavern

American

2327 N. Main St, Rockford

Opened by a Marine cook after World War II and now run by his beer-focused grandson, this 30-tap hangout has more than elevated bar food: It's a full-service restaurant known for steak and seafood—plus fun: Quirky specials, like Chicago Dog Pizza and an Elote Pizza, have made the news in Chicago.



### Stockholm Inn

Swedish

2420 Charles St, Rockford

A tribute to Rockford's Scandinavian heritage, this community gathering place opened in the late 1940s. At its original location, less than a mile from the current spot, guests included Swedish royalty. Lingonberries are an option for all meals—and in lemonade, iced tea and milkshakes. Meeting rooms feature wallpaper reproductions of Swedish artist Carl Larsson's paintings.

### Ambiance Cuisine Cocktails & Catering

Creole

307 S. Main St, Rockford

Craving a catfish po' boy before an IceHogs game? Right across the street from the BMO Center, Chef Tisha Hannah has you covered—elegantly—with that and other tastes of America's Southern cuisine. Her Creole kitchen and cocktail bar has atmosphere aplenty, along with stuffed turkey legs, mac and cheese, and scrumptious banana pudding.

### Vanakkam India

Indian

1602 N. Bell School Road, Rockford

The chef at this craft kitchen, a native of south India, had worked for two luxury cruise lines. He elevates traditional Indian dishes, from tikka masalas to biryanis—and pays attention to how spicy you want to go. Look for specialties from his hometown like pepper soup and Gongura chicken.

### Lino's

Italian

5611 E. State St, Rockford

Now run by their family's third generation, the classic Italian eatery founded by Michelino and Pasqua Battista celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2023. Tuesday and Thursday nights year-round, traditional dishes come with a side of live jazz.



# OUTDOOR BLISS

Recharge—or relax—in the Rockford region’s parks, gardens and waterfront spots. You’ve got options!



West Rock Wake Park



Whether your idea of summertime bliss is a leisurely stroll, a daring adventure, or waking up in the middle of nature, Rockford is an outdoors enthusiast's paradise.

### Hike and Bike Your Heart Out

The region has over 190 miles of hiking trails. The mostly easy trails in **Seward Bluffs Forest Preserve** are known for being picturesque and an attainable hike for most beginners. Also popular are over 40 miles of mostly moderate hiking trails at **Rock Cut State Park**, where some wind through a wooded forest and another leads to one of the park's two lakes.

In the heart of Rockford, the **Rock River Recreation Path** where people jog, hike and bike, is wheelchair—and stroller—accessible. From the parking lot of **Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens**, roll or stroll to **Sinnissippi Rose Garden**.

Mountain biking and hiking come with a side of history at **Atwood Park**. This storied area is part of Atwood Center which is on the site of the former **Camp Grant** artillery range—a training center, during both world wars. Some structures remain, including trench bunkers and a tar pit. Locals say this is one of the best places for mountain biking.



Atwood Bike Trails

### Big Adventures with The Little Ones

At Atwood Center, the **Birds of Prey** exhibit is a rare find. See injured raptors cared for in one of the few accessible treehouses in Illinois. On Saturdays, when the birds get fed at 1 p.m., staff hold a Q&A session for visitors. If you have curious kids—or would like to see an eagle devour a rabbit, time your visit accordingly.

Connections with nature are gentler at **Gretta's Goats** in Pecatonica, where you can hike with goats or snuggle with goats. The farm's lovable kids are rock stars, so book ASAP.

On Saturdays at **Lockwood Park**, children can help groom, lead or take a ride on a pony or small horse.

At **Severson Dells Nature Preserve**, you could spend the entire day. It's home to a butterfly garden and a playground with log forts and climbing areas, including one with a rope made into a giant spider web.



Bald Eagle at Atwood Center

### Watch for Birds

Of the Midwest's 400 bird species, more than 300 have been recorded in Winnebago County's woods and prairies and along the shores of our rivers and prairies. A great place to see migrating waterfowl and resident songbirds is near Rockton, at the **Nygren Wetland Preserve**. Get to the **Dianne Nora Nature Trail** at dusk and you will see thousands of geese fly in for their overnight stay.

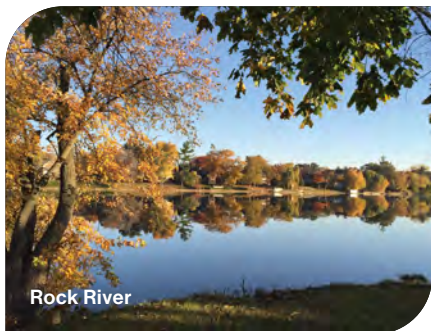
Another wonderful bird watching spot is **Severson Dells**, where the viewing areas are welcoming with comfortable seating and binoculars.



Atwood Bike Trails



## OUTDOOR BLISS



### Cast a Line

The **Rock River** and its tributaries (Sugar, Pecatonica and Kishwaukee rivers) offer scenic stream bank fishing as well as access areas for fishing boats. Most of Winnebago County's 44 forest preserves are along these four rivers. The largest walleye ever caught in the state of Illinois—15 pounds, 1 ounce—was fished in March 2012 from the Pecatonica River.

There's also good fishing in local lakes, where stock includes largemouth bass, walleye, brown bullheads, redear sunfish, northern pike and bluegill. **Baumann Park Lake** in Cherry Valley and **Four Lakes Forest Preserve** in Pecatonica are favorites.

### Rock Cut State Park



### On the Water

If you love the serenity of kayaking, canoeing or paddleboarding, you can rent equipment—plus a life jacket—from **Rocktown Adventures**, which also offers classes. A favorite among the many spots to put in is the **Kishwaukee River Forest Preserve**.

Wondering whether you can wakeboard? "If a friend can help you stand up from a seated position on the ground, you can get up on the first or second try." That's the encouragement for everyone 7 and older at **West Rock Wake Park**.



### Ride the Trails

Six forest preserves have horseback-riding trails: Roland Olson, Sugar River, Oak Ridge, Deer Run, Rockford Rotary and Seward Bluffs. There are also 14 miles of equestrian trails at **Rock Cut State Park**.

### Hit the Greens

**Aldeen Golf Club** is an 18-hole public course that consistently gets positive reviews for its challenging layout and scenic beauty. At the 9-hole **Sinnissippi Golf Course**, another public option known to stymie a player or two, par is 37. **Forest Preserves of Winnebago County** has three courses: **Atwood Homestead**, **Macktown** and **The Ledges**.





## OUTDOOR BLISS



Rockford BMX

### Get That Adrenaline Pumping

Rockford has the infrastructure to host such international extreme sports races as **IRONMAN 70.3** (a 1.2-mile swim, 56-mile bike ride and 13.1-mile run) and **Tough Mudder**, a two-day team-focused 10-mile mud run and obstacle course. Sign up to test your stamina, or watch and cheer from dedicated spectator courses.

Rockford also has one of the top 10 tracks in the U.S. for bicycle motocross racing. **Rockford BMX**, a Rockford sporting tradition since 1977, has "new rider" open houses once a month. Check for dates on Facebook.

ATV and dirt-bike riders can shred on four tracks at **Rocky Glen OHV Park**, a 120-acre off-highway-vehicle destination on Rockford's south side. If you don't have a vehicle, you can rent by the day.

### Pitch a Tent and Stay Awhile

The region's largest campground is in **Rock Cut State Park**. Three forest preserves also have campgrounds. All offer full-service as well as rustic campsites.

At **Seward Bluffs Campground**, you can get on the gorgeous hiking trails the moment you wake up.

At **Sugar River**, another forest preserve campground, you can fish off the river banks or launch a canoe to explore the river. Both have basketball and volleyball courts.

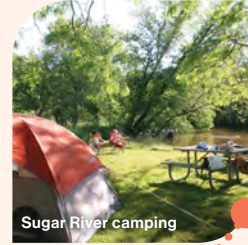
The private **Blackhawk Valley Resort**, a secluded campground near the Kishwaukee River, offers mini golf, pedal carts, a playground and hayrides for kids.

Pecatonica River Campground

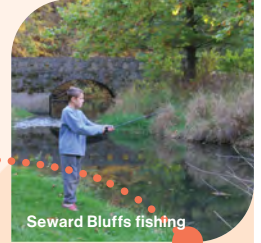


## ITINERARY

# CAMPING MINI ITINERARY



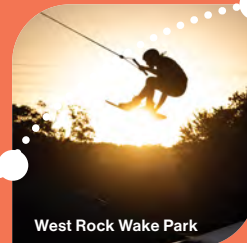
Sugar River camping



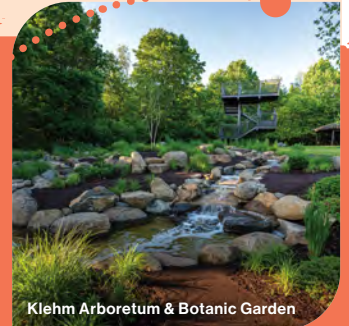
Seward Bluffs fishing

### Day 1:

If you're camping at **Rock Cut State Park**, take the out-and-back 5.2-mile **Willow Creek Trail** and see if you spot a turkey, owl or fox. Picnic on the shores of **Pierce Lake**, where you can rent a motorized rowboat, canoe or kayak. If you'd like to go swimming, venture over to **Olson Lake**. You can fish at both lakes; so, if you brought your rods, see what's biting. You may be set for dinner.



West Rock Wake Park



Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden

### Day 2:

To enjoy nature beyond the campsite, head to **Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden** and hike the 1.7-mile loop. Grab lunch and stock up on provisions at nearby **Guanajuato Carniceria**, where you can pick up a beloved taco or two made to order at the back of the store. For an afternoon of high-energy water fun, check out **West Rock Wake Park**. Or explore **Severson Dells** before heading back to the campsite for stargazing.



Severson Dells



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# FUN 365

Every season, fun and fascinating festivals and activities shine a light on the range of reasons to keep visiting the Rockford region

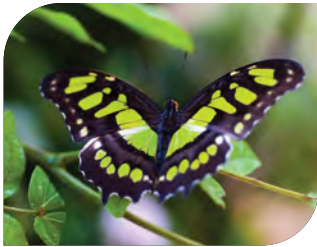
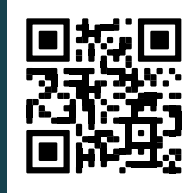


Holiday fun at Stroll On State



From grape stomping to ghost hunting in the fall, holiday light shows to a snow-sculpting competition in the winter, outdoor concerts and tasty celebrations of ethnic heritage in the spring and summer—plus human pyramids and makeshift rafts atop the Rock River—there's always something remarkable to enjoy here.

**Scan the code**  
for a comprehensive  
and up-to-the-  
minute resource of all  
Rockford events



**Butterfly Exhibit at Nicholas Conservatory**

March to May

1354 N. 2nd St, Rockford

Every spring, a part of Nicholas Conservatory's tropical world becomes a classroom for butterflies. See monarchs laying eggs, caterpillars nibbling on leaves and brightly colored wings pulling through a chrysalis. Hunt for butterflies with tiny, spongy wands of sugary water as you learn about the role they play in nature.



**ArtScene**

Mid-April (and Mid-October)

Throughout Rockford

Meet the region's established and emerging artists on a Friday and Saturday evening every April as businesses and offices throughout the area turn into art galleries. Check out locally made paintings, sculptures, jewelry, prints, photography and textiles during this semiannual crawl, which repeats in October.

**Arbor Day at Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden**

2715 S. Main St, Rockford

On the last Friday in April—Arbor Day—there's no charge to visit Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden, a living museum of rare trees and 13 specialty gardens. Take advantage that day of a free, guided tour or follow nearly 2 miles of a paved, accessible path to explore on your own.



**Dinner on the Dock**

May to August

200 Prairie St, Rockford

Enjoy a dynamic weeknight concert series on the banks of the Rock River. Thursday evenings starting the second week in May, Prairie Street Brewhouse's Dinner on the Dock series brings regional and national acts to the outdoor stage of the restored historic brewery.

**Food Truck Tuesdays**

May to October

1354 N. 2nd St, Rockford

A weeknight stroll through Sinnissippi Gardens can get even better. On Tuesdays from early May through fall, dinner options await onsite with more than a dozen food trucks stretching from Nicholas Conservatory's parking lot up to the Symbol sculpture. Grab a bite and enjoy the scenery along the Rock River. Then step inside the conservatory for a tropical getaway.

**SPRING & SUMMER**



Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden





**Tuesday Evening in the Gardens**

Late May to late August

318 Spring Creek Road, Rockford

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs to Anderson Japanese Gardens and settle in for an evening of live music. National, regional and local musicians headline this unique weeknight concert series. Enjoy food and drinks from vendors onsite, or come with a picnic basket.



**Juneteenth**

1401 N. 2nd St, Rockford

For over three decades before Juneteenth became a federal holiday, Rockford was celebrating June 19, the date in 1865 when the last of enslaved Black people in the United States learned of their freedom. Illinois' oldest and longest Juneteenth celebration, this event energizes Siniissippi Park with a day of music, dance, poetry, art and food.



**Rockford City Market**

Friday evenings, May to September

E. State and Water streets, Rockford

From summer through early fall, downtown Rockford overflows with local growers, makers, brewers, bakers, artists, bands and food trucks. Park nearby or arrive by boat or bike.

**Ski Broncs**

Memorial Day to Labor Day

235 Evelyn Ave, Loves Park

Get to the bleachers at Shorewood Park by 7 p.m. on a Wednesday or Friday and marvel at the world-class—and free—performances of the Ski Broncs, the region's show-ski team. Costumes glisten as the Ski Broncs jump and twirl on the Rock River performing exhilarating high-speed and aerial stunts. And human pyramids too!



**Rockford Pride Parade and Alley Party**

First Saturday in June

513 E. State St, Rockford

The kickoff to Pride Month events in Rockford is a party downtown the first Saturday in June. It's a free event in the alley beside The Office Niteclub and Show Lounge. Starting with a car parade, the Pride Alley Party features bands, food trucks, speakers, an all-ages drag show, DJs and raffles.

**Rockton River Market**

June to August

200 E. Hawick St, Rockton

On Wednesday evenings all through the summer, Settlers Park in downtown Rockton thrums with the energy of Rockton River Market. Bring totes for fresh fruits, vegetables and artisan goods and lawn chairs to enjoy local bands taking the stage at the park's signature gazebo on the Rock River.

**Midsommar Fest**

Mid-June

404 S. 3rd St, Rockford

Welcome the summer solstice with Swedish traditions on the grounds of the Erlander Home Museum and Nordic Cultural Center. Make flower crowns. Dance to folk music around a maypole. Enter a Swedish pancake eating contest. And toast the day with lingonberry beer.

**Old Settlers Days**

June

150 Hawick St, Rockton

This four-day country music festival turns Settlers Park in downtown Rockton into a stage for more than a dozen musical acts. Adding to the festivities are a carnival, midway rides, vendor booths and a parade.



**Domingos en el Parque**

June to August

1420 S. Pierpont Ave, Rockford

Translating to Sundays in the Park, this summer series showcases Rockford's Latino culture. For two Sundays a month in June, July and August, Latino musical artists, bands and folk-dance troupes from throughout the region gather at Levings Park. So do food, craft and toy vendors.



**Music in the Park**

June to August

1401 N. 2nd St, Rockford

Music in the Park is a summer concert series on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the Siniissippi Park Music Shell near downtown Rockford. Performances include a range of genres, from local classical musicians to regional cover bands. Most of the shows are free. Select shows, called prime concerts, are \$5.

**Live at Levings**

June to August

1420 S. Pierpont Ave, Rockford

This entertainment series brings rappers, break-dancers, magicians, comedians and other performers to Levings Park in Rockford twice a month in June, July and August. Most shows are free. Select shows start with a talent competition.

**Phantom Regiment Show of Shows**

July

4000 St. Francis Dr, Rockford

For one night every summer, fans pack the stands at Boylan Catholic High School to see the biggest hometown performance by Phantom Regiment, Rockford's drum and bugle corps with top corps from around the country. Known and awed across the country and internationally, their musical pageantry is not to be missed.





**Rock River Anything That Floats Race**  
August

*Downtown Rockford*

One Sunday in mid to late August, proud teams on colorful homemade rafts start out just north of the Auburn Street Bridge and navigate 1.65 miles to the docks of Prairie Street Brewhouse. The annual Rock River Anything That Floats Race is a Rockford tradition dating to 1976. Spectators cheer on from the riverbanks.



**Festa Italiana**  
Early August

*4000 St. Francis Dr, Rockford*

From pasta necklaces and carnival rides for kids to bocce tournaments and limoncello demonstrations for adults, there's fun aplenty at Festa Italiana, a three-day festival every August at Boylan Catholic High School. Entertainment includes a who's who of local bands and Italian folk dance troupes. Enjoy meatball sandwiches, toasted ravioli, arancini rice balls, sfingi doughnut balls and granita.



**Polish Fest**  
Mid-August

*201 Buckbee St, Rockford*

Parishioners at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church make four types of pierogi—all of them by the thousands—for the Sunday in August that's Polish Fest, one of Rockford's oldest ethnic celebrations. Feast on these and some kielbasa sausage, potato pancakes or a braised cabbage dish called kapusta. Then dance the carbs away with polka music.

**FALL & WINTER**



SnoMarket

**Tamale Fest**  
September

*5909 E. State St, Rockford*

Tamales are the love language for this September festival that celebrates diversity and acceptance in Rockford. Enjoy live music, a car show, lucha libre wrestling and a jalapeño eating contest while waiting to see which food truck wins the award for the area's best tamales.



**Screw City Beer Fest**  
September

*324 N. Madison St, Rockford*

Cheers to the Screw City Beer Festival, the Saturday after Labor Day event typically sold out shortly after tickets go on sale in June. If you score a ticket, you get to sample over 130 beers from nearly 40 craft breweries. Pouring is by the Riverview Ice House on the banks of the Rock River in downtown Rockford.



**Greenwich Village Art Fair**  
September

*711 N. Main St, Rockford*

One weekend every September, meet dozens of artists from across the country at Greenwich Village Art Fair: a fall tradition in Rockford since 1948. See paintings, pottery, jewelry, photography, textiles, wood sculptures, mixed media pieces and more original works. There are food trucks, local and regional bands and art activities including easel painting for children.

**World War II Days**  
September

*6799 Guilford Road, Rockford*

The last weekend of September, one of the country's largest World War II reenactments takes place on the campus of Midway Village Museum. See over 1,000 participants in uniform and costume. Brace for tanks, artillery and pyrotechnic displays. Listen to military briefings. Sit in on a USO concert and learn about victory gardens.





**Tour De North End**

September

2327 N. Main St, Rockford

Rockford's original bike festival, Tour De North End, raises awareness of bicycle safety one Saturday every September. Start at The Olympic Tavern, the neighborhood spot hosting the event, and pedal on and off the district's Main Street corridor to discover public art and local businesses. Collect passport stamps for prizes at the after party.

**Eerie Autumn Lights**

2715 S. Main St, Rockford

Round up the crew and get ready for a colorful — and spooky — nighttime view of Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden. A half-mile journey through this immersive LED light show takes you by haunted hay displays, a kid-size straw bale maze, and Rockford's biggest pumpkin. Plan for timed entry at klehm.org

**Grape Stomping at DC Estate Winery**

8877 State Line Road, South Beloit

Celebrating harvest season is toe-tapping fun at DC Estate Winery in South Beloit. Bring the whole family and take turns stomping on freshly picked grapes. All ages can join in! Check their social media for the exact date. Be sure to commemorate the fun with footprints on a tee.



**Head of the Rock Regatta**

October

200 Y Blvd, Rockford

One Sunday in early October, more than 2,000 rowing athletes, many on college crews, compete in one of the premier rowing races in the country: Head of the Rock Regatta. The 3.2-mile race ends near the YMCA in downtown Rockford. Bring a lawn chair to the riverbanks to join rowing families cheering everyone on.



**Nygren Wetland Preserve**

3714 W. Rockton Road, Rockton

Watch the leaves rustle and nature thrive amid 721 acres of woodlands and restored prairie, where colorful vistas come with birdsong. Near the confluence of the Rock and Pecatonica rivers, the 2.5-mile Dianne Nora Nature Trail takes you along Raccoon Creek, an overnight hangout for migrating birds. Just before dusk, see and hear hundreds of geese swooping in for shelter on the creek.



**Apple Orchards**

Rockford, Winnebago, Cherry Valley

Drive through the region's farm country and make memories at three local apple orchards: Curran's Orchard in Rockford, Edwards Apple Orchard West in Winnebago, and Valley Orchard in Cherry Valley. Pick apples and other fruit. Let children discover each orchard's play areas. And round up apple cider and doughnuts for home.



**Ghost Hunting at Tinker Swiss Cottage**

October

411 Kent St, Rockford

As noted on "Jack Osbourne's Night of Terror" Travel Channel show, Tinker Swiss Cottage is "the mansion of a wealthy industrialist who watches over his property from beyond the grave." During a paranormal tour, offered every Friday in October, see if you can spot the former mayor or one of his family members going through their 22-room chalet.



**Snow-Tubing and Snowboarding at Alpine Hills**





**Stroll on State**

Saturday after Thanksgiving

*Downtown Rockford*

This annual festival kicks off the holiday season on Small Business Saturday, turning downtown Rockford into a winter wonderland. Enjoy such whimsical attractions as fire-and-ice sculptures and s'mores and hot cocoa stations along with a 5K walk/run, a parade, a tree lighting and fireworks.

**Ice Skating at Eclipse Lagoon**

November to February

*1354 N. 2nd St, Rockford*

Weather and safety conditions permitting, you can take a spin on the lagoon between Nicholas Conservatory and Sinnissippi Gardens along the Rock River near downtown. On those days, Eclipse Lagoon is open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. for ice skating and open ice hockey.

**Snow-Tubing and Snowboarding at Alpine Hills**

December to February

*4402 Larson Ave, Rockford*

A 5-acre winter playground awaits just 10 minutes from downtown Rockford. At the Snow Park at Alpine Hills, there's snow tubing on one side of the hill and skate-park style obstacles for snowboarders and skiers in a terrain park on the other side.



**Cross-Country Skiing at Rock Cut State Park**

*7223 West Lane Road, Loves Park*

Take in the beauty of Rock Cut State Park's woods and prairies along 15 miles of groomed cross-country trails. You can rent skis and snowshoes from the concession stand, or bring your own equipment to one of the frozen lakes and ice fish.



**Festival of Lights**

Late November to New Year's Eve

*1401 N. Second St, Rockford*

Experience tunnels of dazzling color as you drive through dozens of holiday scenes at Sinnissippi Park. Sponsored by local businesses and put up by a small team of volunteers, this annual display of hundreds of thousands of lights is a holiday tradition dating to 1989.



**All Aglow**

Late November to early January

*1354 N 2nd St, Rockford*

Let jewel-tone displays of lights electrify your stroll along the grounds of Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens. Elegantly wrapped trees, shrubs and fixtures around the Eclipse Lagoon and through the tea gardens make the Rock River's banks magically glisten just north of downtown.



**Illuminated**

Late November to December

*318 Spring Creek Road, Rockford*

Experience the serenity of Anderson Japanese Gardens at night with a show of white lights woven through the landscape that play off violet and turquoise up-lights on the trees. Savor the moments over hot cocoa by a bonfire.



**Snømarket**

*1402 N. Main St, Rockford*

For a weekend in mid-December, the parking lot of The Norwegian brunch pub in Rockford's North End transforms into a Nordic fishing village. Shop this annual holiday market while sipping on house-made glögg and snacking on æbleskivers, fish on a stick and other fun Scandinavian nibbles.

**Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition**

January

*1401 N 2nd St, Rockford*

In a decades-long tradition at Sinnissippi Park, teams of three people from around the state meet up for three days to chisel away on 2½-ton blocks of ice. Drive through to vote for your favorite. The winning team gets to represent the state at the next year's nationals.

**PaleoFest**

March

*737 N. Main St, Rockford*

For a weekend every March, Burpee Museum of Natural History, the home of Jane the juvenile *Tyrannosaurus rex* and Homer the juvenile triceratops, becomes the place to be for paleontology enthusiasts. Researchers from around the world come to Rockford to share their latest findings on the ancient world.

**Sock Monkey Madness**

March

*6799 Guilford Road, Rockford*

On a Saturday in early March, at Midway Village Museum, celebrate the iconic toy first sewn from red-heeled socks made in Rockford. Bring in your own sock monkey or sign up to make one, and learn how this DIY toy became a symbol of Rockford's industrial history.

**St. Patrick's Day Parade and PaddyFest**

March

*Midtown to Downtown Rockford*

Rockford's Irish Marching Society goes all out in celebrating St. Patrick's Day. As their lively parade crosses the State Street Bridge, you can see Operation Emerald Water's magic on the Rock River. Partying continues into the evening with PaddyFest, where Irish bands provide the soundtrack to an Irish buffet headlined by corned beef and cabbage.



# A DAZZLING HOLIDAY DESTINATION

Rockford is a great place to  
celebrate the holiday season

Illuminated,  
Anderson Japanese Gardens







Snømarket, The Norwegian

There are so many things Rockford does really well – and the holidays are one of them. The entire region comes together to embrace and celebrate the season with a festival, light shows and more. In this area, it quite literally is one of the most wonderful times of the year.



Stroll on State



**Stroll on State**

 Downtown Rockford

**Stroll on State** is downtown Rockford's epic kickoff to the holiday season—a free community event that transforms the city's downtown into a winter wonderland of experiences right out of holiday movies.

On the Saturday after Thanksgiving, get ready for s'mores and hot cocoa stations, bonfires in ice sculptures, a holiday parade with floats and giant balloons, a tree lighting celebration and fireworks. Horse and wagon rides, carolers, music stages, character dance parties and appearances by Santa all bring out the kid in everyone.


Wander around the larger-than-life sculptures of presents, lollipops, nutcrackers and toy soldiers dotting the streets to discover what downtown shops and restaurants offer and showcase.

Made possible by dozens of corporate sponsors and dedicated teams of local volunteers, **Stroll on State** is Rockford's annual reminder of what big, memory-making things can happen when a community works together.



## HOLIDAY DESTINATION

### All Aglow

 Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens

Get into the holiday spirit and keep it all season long with jewel-tone lights electrifying the Rock River's banks just north of downtown Rockford. **All Aglow, Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens'** annual holiday display, runs from the weekend after Thanksgiving to the end of the first week in January.

This spectacular show of over 400,000 lights, sparkling and glistening from dawn to dusk, is a free event.

Walk the grounds to see up-close the wrapped trees, shrubs and fixtures around the Eclipse Lagoon and throughout the gardens. Conservatory staff hand make the jumbo stars and candy canes, creating more every year.

DEC

DEC



### Festival of Lights

 Sinnissippi Park

Across the street from **All Aglow**, drive through **Sinnissippi Park** and enjoy hundreds of thousands more lights in dozens of captivating displays.

**Festival of Lights**, a family tradition since 1989, lets you experience tunnels of amazing color, light designs the kids will love, and even fun holiday scenes, all from the comfort of your car. Local businesses sponsor the

displays, which are put up by a small team of volunteers.

This light show, a free attraction, runs from the day after Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve. Lights are on Thursday to Sunday evenings, and 24 hours on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

## SHOPPING, DINING, AND FREE EVENTS ALL YEAR LONG



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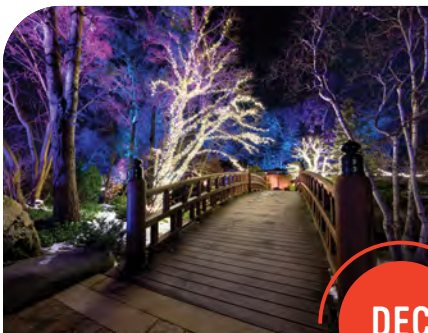
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DEC

**Illuminated**

Anderson Japanese Gardens

Reflect on winter's nighttime beauty during **Illuminated** at **Anderson Japanese Gardens**, where thousands of white lights drape the landscape amid violet and turquoise up-lights on trees.

Enjoy a made-to-order pie from **Woodfire Pizza** or any specialty from the food trucks in rotation. Between photo ops, grab a hot cocoa from **Rockford Roasting Co.** and nestle by a bonfire.

On Friday and Saturday nights, don't miss the carolers from regional schools performing in the Guest House Circle.

**Illuminated** runs Thursday through Sunday from late November to mid-December and then daily, except for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, through the end of December.



NOV  
DEC

**Williams Tree Farm**

Rockton

Take a trip to **Williams Tree Farm** in Rockton and start a family tradition. Cut down your own Norway or blue spruce, scotch or white pine, noble or Fraser fir, or pick up one already cut.

Explore the gift shop with thousands of ornaments. Take a wreath-making class, a horse-drawn hayride, a tractor ride, or a virtual-reality ride with Santa. Meet llamas, goats and camels in the petting zoo.

Whether you spend an hour or the whole day, **Williams Tree Farm** is the perfect way to dive headfirst into the holidays.



**Ambrose Christmas Store**

Loves Park



At **Ambrose Christmas Store** in Loves Park, you'll find yourself surrounded by everything you'll ever need to decorate your home and add that extra special touch of holiday magic—from supplies to inspiration.

Peruse the forest of over 150 themed trees and the vast array of charming, hard-to-find ornaments. Explore the banquet of holiday décor mainstays, from trees, lights and custom-made wreaths to an assortment of figurines, figures and collectibles. If you need help, their excellent staff will be more than happy to find what you need.

**Holiday Shopping at Urban Farmgirl**

716 N. Madison St., Rockford

For a more rustic selection of decorations, head to **Urban Farmgirl**. Looking for giant snowflakes? How about jumbo jingle bells?

Chic, classy, and filled with homespun vintage goods, **Urban Farmgirl** has everything from understated and elegant to eye-catching and unique.



# GUYS' WEEKEND AWAY

Time to get the guys together for a weekend in Rockford! If you feel like getting competitive, tasting your favorite beer or spirits straight from the source, and experiencing some awesome live acts, then look no further.

## Day 1: Arrival/Friday night

Rockford is roughly a 90-minute drive from downtown Chicago or Milwaukee. By the time you arrive, you'll probably be ready for dinner. Head to **Murphy's Pub and Grill**. The biggest games are on some of the biggest screens in town. Plus, you'll find pool tables and dartboards to keep you entertained. Relax with a local craft beer and unwind as you prepare for the weekend.



Stay at any of the hotels close to the interstate or take the short drive to one in or near downtown on the Rock River. You have options with spacious rooms and indoor pools, so you can relax between activities.

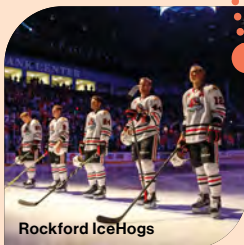


## Day 2: Saturday

Start your day at one of Rockford's best breakfast spots, **Stockholm Inn**. Go for the Swedish pancakes combo and ask for it with lingonberries—the topping recommended by **Cheap Trick's Rick Nielsen**, one of the owners. Once you're fueled up, head to **Victory Pickleball**, where you can try your hand at the paddle sport taking the world by storm. Friendly staff can help you get started.

To feast like a local for lunch, score a reservation at **The Norwegian**. If you're feeling daring, get everyone to go in on the **Sea Bord**—a tasting platter packed with Nordic classics like gravlax. Get in a little cardio as you explore one of Rockford's craft beer mainstays, **Carlyle Brewing Co.**, a downtown spot where you can play a few rounds of shuffleboard too. Prefer something a little stronger? Try **Barnstormer Distillery**. A tour will take you through both the distillery and the working farm. For dinner, regroup at **Baker Street Burgers**. Try **The Flamethrower**: bacon, cheese curds and pickled jalapenos—there's no way you're going home hungry.

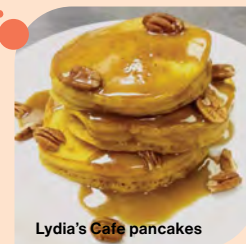
From October to April, you can't beat the atmosphere of a bustling ice hockey crowd. **BMO Center** is home to the **Rockford IceHogs**—a top league affiliate of the **Chicago Blackhawks**. Make sure to check icehogs.com to see when they're on the home ice.



Don't miss **Mary's Place**, the oldest bar in Rockford and a great spot for live music and low drink prices. **Bun E. Carlos of Cheap Trick** performs here on occasion, so you could bump into rock royalty! For extra excitement, check out the new **Hard Rock Casino Rockford**. Try your hand at the live poker tables, test your luck at the slot machines, or see which live act is performing that evening.

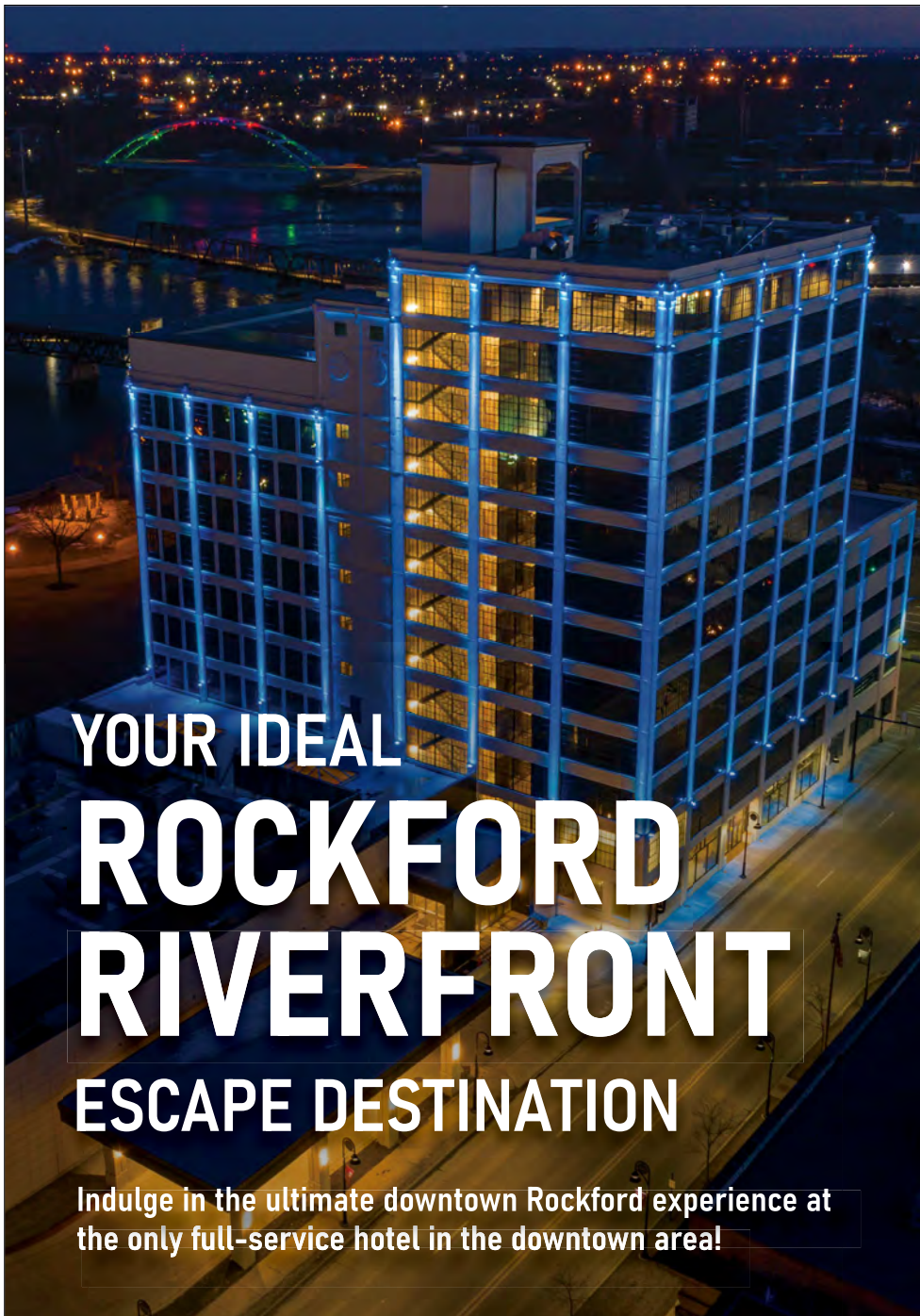
## Day 3: Sunday/departure

You deserve a big breakfast after an epic night out. Good thing **Lydia's Cafe** serves breakfast all day. Fill up with a Rockford-themed dish like **The Coronado** or their house made corned beef hash, **Aldeen**. Before heading back home, bond over disc golf at **Anna Page Park** or mountain biking at **Atwood Park**.



Lydia's Cafe pancakes





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# FOR THE 'GRAM

Rockford: So many perfect backdrops for those Instagrammable moments

Don't forget to include [#gorockford](#) in your posts and tag us, too [@gorockford](#).

## SPRING & SUMMER



**Pride Parade**

photo credit: [@rockrivercurrent](#)



**Nicholas Conservatory**

photo credit: [@lilianetsmith](#)



**South Main Mercado**

photo credit: [@kippy007](#)



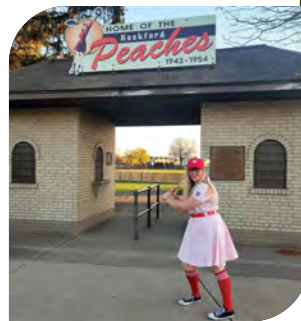
**CRE8IV mural by Corey Barksdale**

photo credit: [@Angel\\_ina97\\_](#)



**Fourth of July**

photo credit: [@rockrivercurrent](#)



**Beyer Stadium (Home of the Rockford Peaches)**

photo credit: [@thejenwheels](#)



**Rockford sign, Davis Park**

photo credit: [@statelinefinds](#)



**Symbol, Rock River Recreation Path**



**Edward's Apple Orchard West**

photo credit: [@Riley\\_and\\_Kalani](#)

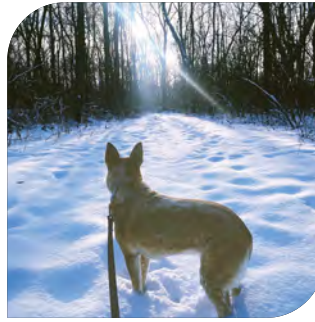


# WINTER & HOLIDAY



**Dockside, Prairie Street Brewhouse**

photo credit: @Sydney.beattyy



**Funderburg Forest Preserve**

photo credit: @jarrodrhennis

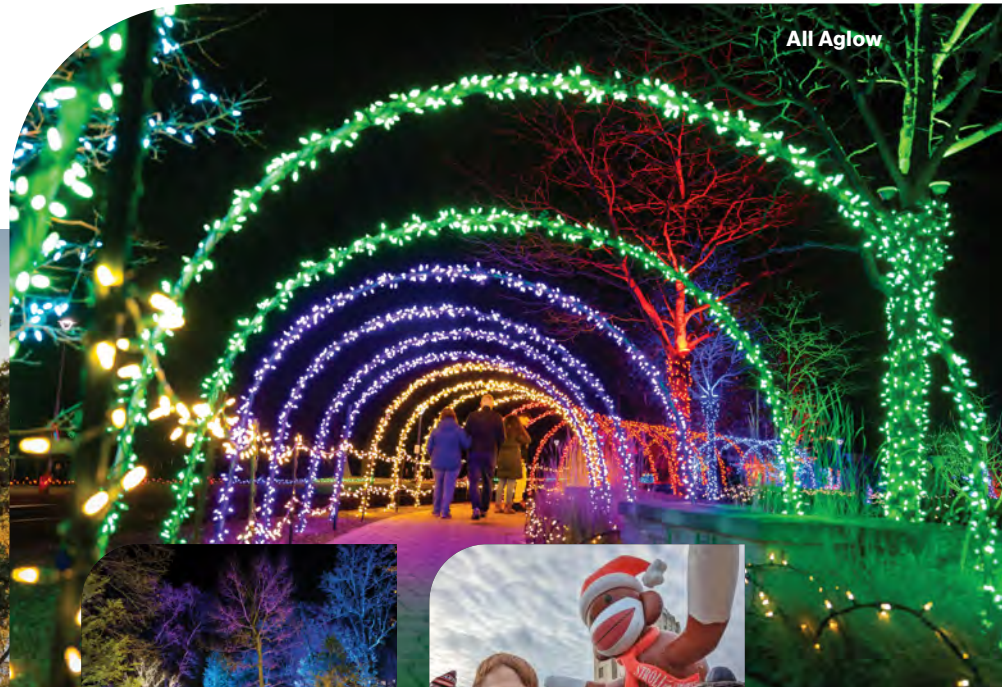


**Snømarket, The Norwegian**



**Rock Cut State Park**

photo credit: @aagust30



All Aglow



**Illuminated**

photo credit: @johngroh



**Stroll on State**

photo credit: @bethkrausch



**Seward Bluffs Forest Preserve**

photo credit: @Mallory\_Gorman



**The Top Rooftop Bar & Lounge**

photo credit: @chloealexander



**Alpine Hills Adventure Park**



**Rock Cut State Park**

photo credit: @eickhoff\_family\_adventures



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# UNIQUELY ROCKFORD

Hidden gems in and  
around Rockford



Anderson Japanese Gardens in the Fall



From a Japanese garden that started out as a swampy backyard, to a Frank Lloyd Wright first; from Cheap Trick vibes, to standouts for sports and food history, Rockford has a range of destinations and activities all its own.



Laurent House

### Anderson Japanese Gardens

Soak in tranquility at this 12-acre oasis with its winding paths around rippling streams, stone lanterns, koi ponds, waterfalls, raked gravel patterns and trained pines. Despite being just off a state highway exit near downtown, its serenity feels eons away from bustling urban life.

Join a docent-led tour or stroll on your own with a detailed map to learn how a local industrialist's backyard bog became an award-winning landscape full of meticulously recreated 16th century architecture.

Enjoy the gardens all year. In the summer, pack lawn chairs and a picnic basket for a Tuesday evening concert series which draws touring musicians from the across the country. In December, see your breath and then have it taken away as a light show drapes the gardens in a glow of violet, white and turquoise.

### Laurent House

Frank Lloyd Wright was a man ahead of his time, and proof lies here, at the only private residence he designed for a client in a wheelchair. Showcasing accessibility features decades before they were mandated, **Laurent House** was commissioned by a veteran who was paralyzed and lived in the house with his wife for 60 years.

Now a museum and on the National Register of Historic Places, this Wright gem is in a neighborhood two miles from **Anderson Japanese Gardens**.

Reserve a spot in a public tour group from April through December, or contact the museum office for a private tour.

### Midway Village

Step back in time just minutes west of I-90 and the State Street exit with a combination of indoor and outdoor exhibits all about Rockford. Year-round in the main museum building, check out interactive displays for Rockford icons such as sock monkeys and the Rockford Peaches women's baseball team.

Or kick it old school from May to October, where tour guides in period dress lead outdoor tours through a Victorian village of 26 historical buildings and explain city life in the late 1800s and early 1900s. For nature lovers, heirloom flowers bloom in eight heritage gardens, and for history buffs, check the calendar for living-history weekend events like World War II Days.



Midway Village Museum

### Beef-a-Roo

If you hear locals talking about cheddar fries, head to **Beef-a-Roo**: a Rockford fast-food favorite since 1967. Beloved in the region for slow-roasted beef sandwiches, burgers, milkshakes, onion rings and salads, Beef-a-Roo has locations in Rockford, Loves Park, Machesney Park and Roscoe.

The food is so good that **Beef-a-Roo** has since expanded into other Midwestern states and even as far south as Texas. While you're in the area, be sure to grab a Wild West Beef and its signature side where the magic all began.



## UNIQUELY ROCKFORD

### Beyer Stadium

There's no crying in baseball! But feel free to get a little emotional as you wander through **Beyer Stadium**, legendary home of the **Rockford Peaches**, the team made famous in the movie *A League of Their Own*.

From 1943 to 1954, the **Rockford Peaches** were one of the most successful teams in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. Their home field, partially restored, remains an inspiration as well as a meeting spot of the Lil Peaches, a local all-girl youth baseball team. The International Women's Baseball Center, a museum project slated for a site across the street, plans to incorporate the historic field and continue its restoration.

Find **Beyer Stadium** on the **Rockford Peaches** Fan Trail at [GoRockfordPeaches.com](http://GoRockfordPeaches.com).



### Places with Cheap Trick vibes

Home of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame band, Rockford has no shortage of spots where **Cheap Trick** played. Visit **Rockford Billiard Cafe** (formerly Stardust Lounge), **Sinnissippi Band Shell**, **Riverview Ice House**, and **Coronado Performing Arts Center** to stand where rock 'n' roll royalty has stood.

Check out the guitars on display at **Hard Rock Casino Rockford**, many of which belong to **Cheap Trick** guitarist Rick Nielsen, a proud Rockfordian and one of the world's most impassioned guitar collectors.

Lastly, stop by the new listening room **The Music Box** – a project led by local musicians Kelly Steward, Rick Nielsen's daughter-in-law and Miles Nielsen, one of Rick's sons. The new venue is inspired by the instrument shop that Nielsen's

parents ran for decades, **Music Box Gift Shoppe** and where Cheap Trick drummer Bun E. Carlos bought his first snare drums.

### West Rock Wake Park

Off U.S. Route 20 on Rockford's southwest side, find Levings Lake: one of the country's premier parks for wakeboarding.

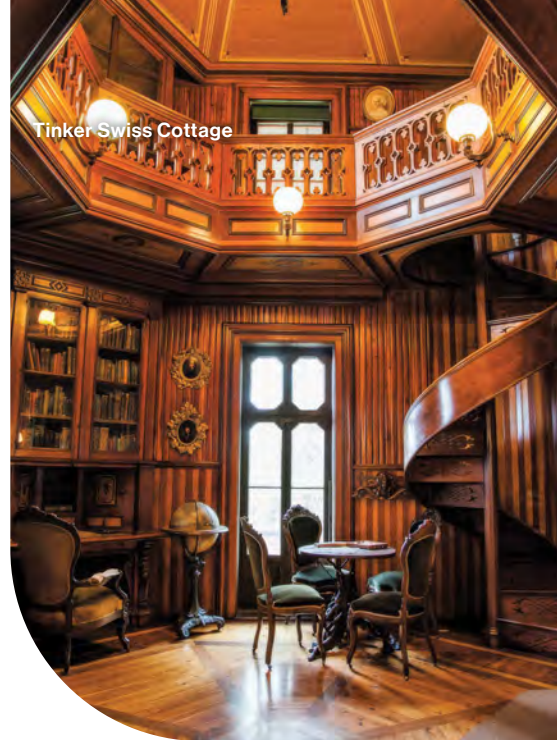
Recognized by the Water Sports Industry Association as Wake Park of the Year in 2022, **West Rock Wake Park** attracts some of the sport's best riders. Thanks to the owners' partnerships with the park district and other local government agencies, it's also one of the most affordable cable parks.

Replacing the need for a boat, three cable-tow systems—two "bunny hills" for first-timers, and a five-tower main cable for experienced water-skiers—let riders as young as 7 glide across the lake. The park is open May to October, so if you want to get started, look for a "Never-Ever" class.

### Tinker Swiss Cottage Museum and Gardens

A 22-room, two-story house sits on a limestone bluff overlooking Kent Creek near the spot Rockford was founded. This is **Tinker Swiss Cottage**, the family home of businessman and later mayor of Rockford, Robert Hall Tinker. Inspired by the architecture of chalets in the Alps and the gardens surrounding them, the house is now open year-round for viewing, though the 27-acres of gorgeous gardens are most striking during the spring and summer.

Take a tour to appreciate the woodwork,



ceiling detail, furnishings, diaries and household items in addition to the art and books Tinker collected on travels with his wife, Mary Dorr Manny Tinker.

### Pig Minds Brewing Co.

Another first for the region: the Rockford area boasts the country's first brewpub with all-vegan food. **Pig Minds Brewing Co.**, so-called for the minds of certain animals that its menu puts at ease, is just 9 miles north of downtown Rockford in an industrial stretch of Machesney Park.

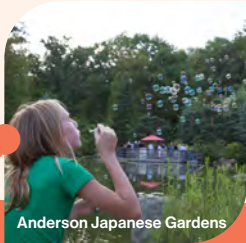
Having opened in 2012, the owners weren't following an industry trend. Both vegan for two decades before they started the craft brewery, they opted to serve food they are passionate about. They're also particular about beer, aging their brews in whiskey, wine and bourbon barrels. So vegan or not, it's worth the trip to try a Joe Daddy stout or a Phil Up ale with any of the burgers, wraps and tacos that win over the heartiest of meat lovers.





# 24 HOURS IN ROCKFORD – THE MUST-DO, DON'T-MISS BUCKET LIST

If you are short on time and want to make the most of your visit, here are some must-do Rockford attractions you can enjoy comfortably in one day. The stops on this bucket list are as close as they are unique: everything is within 2 miles of downtown. So, get ready to be wowed—from finding your zen at a Japanese garden, to a step back in baseball history, to a one-of-a-kind dinosaur skeleton, to the transformation of an 1850s brewery into the perfect spot to grab a drink and catch some of the best views in the city.



Anderson Japanese Gardens

## Revive at Anderson Japanese Gardens

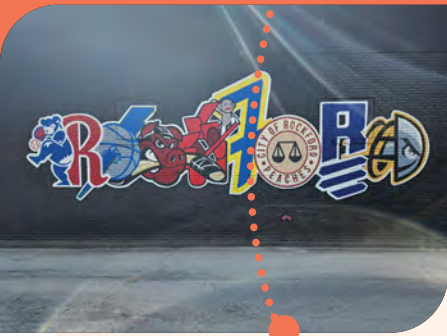
Start your day soaking in serenity at a 12-acre oasis consistently recognized as one of the best Japanese gardens in the USA. Stroll by koi ponds, rippling streams, gentle waterfalls, raked gravel gardens, stone lanterns and beautifully trained pines. The tranquility of 16th century Japan beckons.



Ernie's Midtown Pub

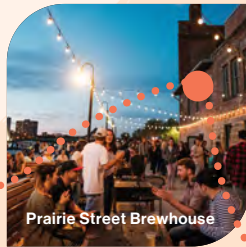
## Spell ROCKFORD over lunch

Grab lunch at **Ernie's Midtown Pub**, a neighborhood tavern overflowing with tributes to Rockford history. Pulling up, you'll see a mural of the city's name, each letter built from symbols representing Rockford's place in sports and industry. (Peep the sock monkey on the K.) Inside, refuel with favorites like Ernie's pastrami Reuben and check out memorabilia from the first **IceHogs** game.



## Dinner on the Rock River

Relax and plan your return to Rockford over dinner at the historic downtown **Prairie Street Brewhouse** lovingly restored by local architects and artisans. Enjoy a house flight and locally sourced seasonal dishes inside on seats made from reclaimed 1850s timbers, or dine on the deck for incredible nighttime views of the city and the beautiful Rock River.



Prairie Street Brewhouse



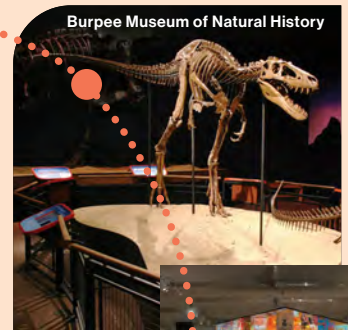
Rockford Peaches

## Photo op at Peaches' Stadium

For a home run of a stop, seek out **Beyer Stadium**, where the real-life **Rockford Peaches** played. Beyer Stadium, partially restored from its 1943 to 1954 glory, honors the women's baseball pioneers immortalized in the classic film *A League of Their Own*. Strike a pose in front of the historic field's original ticket booth.

## Say hey to Jane, the juvenile *T.rex*

The world's best preserved and most complete skeleton of a young *Tyrannosaurus rex*—named Jane by the team of Burpee palaeontologists that found this mega-fossil—anchors **Burpee Museum of Natural History**, one of three museums at Rockford's riverfront museum campus. Learn what discovery of this ancient adolescent means for our understanding of dinosaurs. Then take the tunnel to **Rockford Art Museum** and **Discovery Center Museum**; the latter is a must for families with young children.



Burpee Museum of Natural History



Rockford Art Museum





# ARTFUL ADVENTURES

Street art, wall art, performing arts



CRE8IV mural by Rafael Blanco



Rockford is its own cultural mecca, a place where you can find head-turning art in many forms. To get your discoveries started, here are a few.

## Public Art

Signature pieces by internationally known artists live in some of Rockford's everyday spaces, including the city's most prominent piece of public art:

**Symbol**, the red steel sculpture standing 47 feet tall along the banks of the Rock River just south of the Auburn Street Bridge. It was created in the late 1970s by the late Alexander Liberman, an artist whose paintings and sculptures are in museums and collections around the world.

Signature works by other internationally known artists have been coming to the region's outdoor spaces since 2019, thanks to **CRE8IV** (pronounced "creative"), a mural-focused public art initiative. In downtown Rockford, just west of the State Street Bridge, the giant bouquet on the Burnham Lofts building is the work of Detroit muralist **Louise "Ouizi" Jones**. Ouizi's sought-after bouquets bloom on buildings throughout the United States and as far across the world as New Zealand.

In an art-attentive environment as rich as Rockford's, one mural project begets another. If the little ones in your life are avid readers, head to 765 N. Madison—just down the street from Prairie Street Brewhouse—for the *Reading Colors Your World* mural. Dominican artist **Eddaviel** painted this incredibly detailed mural in a collaboration with the Rockford Public Library. Watch children in awe as they walk along pointing out characters from their favorite books. To pace your viewing of more than 120 pieces of public art, download a free mobile passport at [RockfordPublicArt.com](http://RockfordPublicArt.com).

## Performing Arts

From theater and music venues that can seat thousands, to local community theaters that welcome hundreds, Rockford offers plenty of opportunities to experience quality performances.

The area's most elegant venue is the **Coronado Performing Arts Center**, a restored 1920s movie palace, where you can see the **Rockford Symphony Orchestra**, **Rockford Dance Company** and a variety of national and international acts. For free public and private tours—and details on how to catch a free concert on the original pipe organ—go to [FriendsOfTheCoronado.org](http://FriendsOfTheCoronado.org).

The area's largest concert hall is the **BMO Center**, home of the **Rockford IceHogs**, the American Hockey League affiliate of the Chicago Blackhawks. The area's newest concert stage is **Hard Rock Live**, the entertainment venue at **Hard Rock Casino Rockford**.

Smaller venues like **The Music Box** listening lounge in downtown Rockford, in addition to many restaurants and bars throughout the region, provide year-round choices for live music.

For performances by local actors, check out community venues like the **West Side Show Room** in Rockford's North End, **Rockford University's Maddox and Cheek theaters**, and the **J.R. Sullivan Theater** in the Nordlof Center downtown.

Rock Valley College's **Starlight Theatre** is the area's oldest outdoor summer theater, hosting four musical productions every June and July. If the lines on its striking retractable roof are impressive, keep in mind this venue was designed by Jeanne Gang, the renowned architect from nearby Belvidere whose projects include Chicago's Aqua Tower.

**Mendelssohn Performing Arts Center**, in downtown Rockford, is one of the oldest continuously operating music organizations in the United States.

In addition to concerts, this center hosts such community programs as **Art Song**, a kind of poetry book club for vocalists, and the **Piano Performance Group**, a monthly meetup of enthusiasts playing Steinways. Audiences for both these series are welcome, and at no cost.





## Visual Art

For the most significant collection of modern Chicago art in or beyond the city, visit the **Rockford Art Museum**.

Its critically acclaimed Spiezer collection is among the more than 2,000 works that include contemporary pieces with an emphasis on Illinois artists.

One weekend every spring and fall, a community gallery walk called **ArtScene** transforms offices, restaurants, and even a dry cleaner into show spaces for local artists. This is a major event that draws people from throughout the region to meet with artists and see paintings, sculpture, photography, prints, woodworking and other creations up-close.



J.R. Kortman Center for Design

For another art experience that's uniquely Rockford, visit **317 Art Collaborative**, a nonprofit studio for working artists in downtown Rockford. At the contemporary gallery in a historic building, you'll also find community events and live music.



Cleta's Stay and Sew

Courtesy of KEVIN HAAS/Rock River Current

## Wearable Art Made in Rockford

**Cleta's Stay and Sew** is a Rockford shop like no other—one that comes from a very unexpected place.

**Ruben's Pharmacy** served the Rockford community for over 40 years, and it continues to do so in a different way. Fabric now lines the walls of the pharmacy that Collettia Berryhill, who goes by Clea, once ran with her late brother. Having learned to sew from her blind grandmother, she teaches sewing and quilting classes for free to children and anyone else who would like to learn.

To fund her nonprofit, Clea sells distinctive dresses and accessories she sews from boldly patterned, colorful fabric she imports from Nigeria, Ghana and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The expertly finished dresses are one-of-a-kind.

On Saturdays, just over a mile away in the Midtown district, you can find more wearable art that's unique and artistically made in Rockford. At **Inscape Collective**, an art and live music gallery featuring

the work of 40 local artists, you can find handmade silk-ribbon scarves and tops by fiber artist Ellyn Ahmer of Rockford. Ahmer not only knits and sews these pieces, she hand-dyes and hand-knots the silk ribbon she works with.

They pair perfectly with bracelets, necklaces and earrings made of rare beads and semiprecious stones by local jewelry artist Barbara Berney.

## More Uniquely Rockford Art

The **J.R. Kortman Center for Design** presents objects from around the world—and Rockford—that are as beautifully designed as they are intriguing. For those particularly enamored with the shop and its exquisite pieces, pick up a copy of "Collection," a 230-page book that serves as a visual journey of the fine art and artifacts Doc Slafkosky and Jerry Kortman have come across in their decades of owning the shop. Need an artful Rockford souvenir, too? They have a series of holiday ornaments featuring Rockford landmarks, plus gifts featuring Symbol.

For more souvenirs that are rad, head over to **Rockford Art Deli**, a custom print shop and T-shirt boutique. RAD's owner calls it "a print shop with a purpose." Locally themed apparel and accessories that promote positivity and community pride—starting with the region's primary area code: 815—are crafted from ethically made, eco-conscious materials. And there's a shop dog here too: Pepper, a friendly Jack Russell terrier and Australian cattle dog mix.

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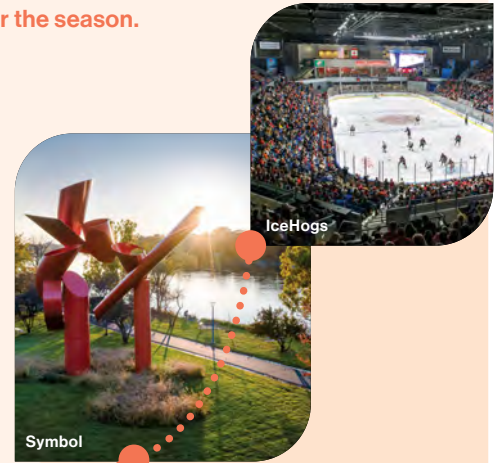


## FAMILY WEEKEND

For a family getaway any time of year, the Rockford region has a unique blend of recreational and cultural attractions, plus dining options, that everyone in the family can enjoy at the same time. Here's a weekend itinerary to get you started, no matter the season.

### Day 1: Arrival/Friday

Begin your family adventure by downloading the **Rockford Public Art Trail** passport at [RockfordPublicArt.com](http://RockfordPublicArt.com). With this, kids can spy how close you're traveling to vibrant outdoor art. If you're visiting over the summer and need an interesting way for everyone to cool down, get to the **Nancy Olson Children's Garden** at **Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden**. Arrive for the kids' creek, its water pools and splash pad. Stay for the quirky sculptures, especially the hippo. When stomachs start growling, head over to **Tilted 10** at **CherryVale Mall** for some comfort food before getting competitive with laser tag, bowling, arcade games and bumper cars. If you're visiting during hockey season, finish off the day with an exhilarating **IceHogs** game and cheer on the home team! If you're visiting during the summer, plan on being at Shorewood Park in Loves Park by 7 p.m. for a free show. You'll love seeing the **Ski Broncs**, our nationally ranked show-ski team.



### Day 2: Saturday

If the weather's hot, pack bathing suits for a day at **Six Flags Hurricane Harbor**, a water wonderland with thrill rides for kids of all heights and all ages. Rent inner tubes for the wave pool. Grab lunch there and dinner at nearby **Sweet Basil Café**. If you're visiting April–December and want to explore indoors, take the family to **Historic Auto Attractions**, a massive museum in Roscoe with a collection of presidential and world leaders' limousines, cars from hit movies like *Ghostbusters* and *Batman*, legendary dragsters, and even stagecoaches. Break for lunch at the local **Beef-a-Roo**. At the end of the day, satisfy your sweet tooth at **Dairyhäus** in Rockton. This family-owned ice cream parlor scoops up house recipes in servings so big they could be dinner.

Year-round options for family adventures await at and near Rockford's **Riverfront Museum Park**. At **Discovery Center Museum**, over 300 interactive displays captivate younger children, as does the Sprouts room of **Burpee Museum of Natural History**, just next door. Dinosaur lovers from toddlers to teens will love Burpee, home to Jane, the world's most complete and best-preserved juvenile *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Share your favorite parts of the day over dinner at **The Olympic Tavern**, one of Rockford's great neighborhood spots where staff have a talent for catering to young guests.

### Day 3: Sunday/departure

Start your last day in town with a big breakfast at the **Stockholm Inn**. Count the dala horses as you wait for orders to arrive and peep the rooms with Carl Larsson art. Properly refueled, wrap up your getaway with a stop at **Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens**. Stroll among beautiful tropical flowers and trees inside and step outside for a walk along the **Rock River Recreation Path**. Strike a pose with the **Rock Guardians** of Rockford, a whimsical sculpture of four mighty figures. For a sweet treat before hitting the road, head over to **Midtown** for **La Michoacana Denisse**, a Mexican ice cream shop where a house specialty is corn ice cream. A must-try.





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### Baymont Inn & Suites

662 N. Lyford Rd.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.229.8200

### Best Western Legacy Inn & Suites

5910 Technology Dr.  
South Beloit, IL 61080  
815.389.4211

### Candlewood Suites

7555 Walton St.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.229.9300

### Comfort Inn

7392 Argus Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.398.7061

### Courtyard by Marriott

7676 E. State St.  
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815.397.6222

### Days Inn Rockford

220 S. Lyford Rd.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.332.4915

### Embassy Suites by Hilton

#### Rockford Riverfront

416 S Main St.  
Rockford, IL 61101  
815.668.7878

### Equality Lodge

4605 E. State St.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.977.5982

### Extended Stay America – I-90

653 Clark Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.226.8969

### Extended Stay America – State Street

747 N. Bell School Rd.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.397.8316

### Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Rockford

7651 Walton St.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.398.7400

### Hampton Inn Rockford

615 Clark Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.229.0404

### Hilton Garden Inn Rockford

7675 Walton St.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.229.3322

### Holiday Inn

7550 E. State St.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.398.2200

### Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites

7552 Park Pl.  
Loves Park, IL 61111  
815.654.4100

### Home2 Suites by Hilton

4150 N Bell School Rd,  
Loves Park, IL 61111

### La Quinta Inn & Suites

7401 Walton St.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.227.1300

### Motel 6

7712 Potawatomi Trl.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.397.8000

### Quality Inn & Suites of Loves Park

4313 N. Bell School Rd.  
Loves Park, IL 61111  
815.282.9300

### Radisson Hotel & Conference Center

200 S. Bell School Rd.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.226.2100

### Red Roof Inn

7434 E. State St.  
Rockford, IL 61108  
815.398.9750

### Residence Inn by Marriott

7542 Colosseum Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.227.0013

### Riverview Inn & Suites

700 W. Riverside Blvd.  
Rockford, IL 61103  
815.282.3033

### Sleep Inn of Rockford

725 Clark Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.398.8900

### Staybridge Suites

633 N. Bell School Rd.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.397.0200

### Super 8 Motel

7646 Colosseum Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815.229.5522



## Campgrounds

### **Blackhawk Valley Campground**

6540 Valley Trail Rd.  
Rockford, IL 61109  
815.874.9767

### **Hononegah Campground**

80 Hononegah Rd.  
Rockton, IL 61072  
815.877.6100

### **Pearl Lake Campground**

1220 Dearborn Ave.  
South Beloit, IL 61080  
815.389.1479

### **Pecatonica River Campground**

7260 Judd Rd.  
Pecatonica, IL 61063  
815.877.6100

### **Rivers Edge Campground**

12626 N. Meridian Rd.  
Rockton, IL 61072  
815.629.2526

### **Rock Cut State Park Campground**


7223 West Lane Rd.  
Loves Park, IL 61111  
815.885.3311

### **Seward Bluffs Campground**

16999 Comly Rd.  
Pecatonica, IL 61063  
815.877.6100

### **Sugar River Campground**

10127 Forest Preserve Rd.  
Durand, IL 61024  
815.877.6100



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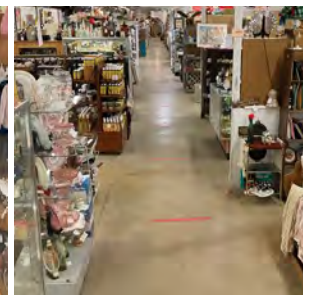
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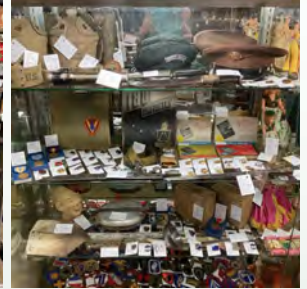
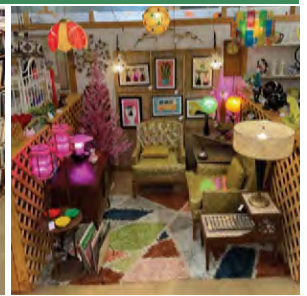
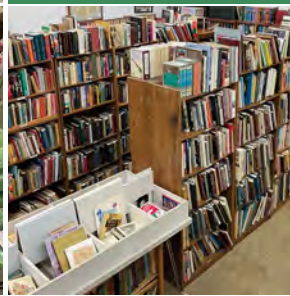
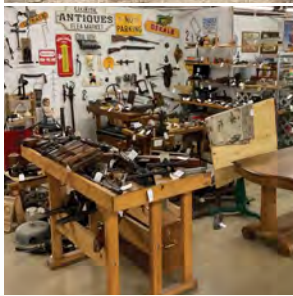
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 Exit I-90 using the State Street exit and head west 2.3 miles. We are on the south side of State Street. Use the left hand turn lane into the 5411 East State building and drive around to the back of the building. You'll see our **GREEN** awning with the Antiques Mall sign above our entry door.



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